

HOUSE BILL 2943

By McCormick

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
relative to civic education.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 1, Part 2, is amended by
adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

§ 49-1-2__.

(a) The department of education shall develop and implement a college scholarship program, to be known as the General Assembly civic education scholarship program, to promote and encourage civic learning and good citizenship throughout the state. The scholarship program each year shall recognize one (1) high school student in each senatorial district and one (1) high school student in each district of the house of representatives for an exemplary civics essay or a project that demonstrates exemplary community or governmental participation. The department, in consultation with the commission on civic education in Tennessee, shall set requirements for such scholarships as the department determines to be reasonable. The department shall provide opportunities for the members of the senate and the house of representatives to participate in the publication of the scholarship program, encouragement of high school students to participate in civic learning and to develop and execute civic projects meeting the requirements of scholarship program, determination of the recipients of the scholarships and in awards ceremonies for the scholarships. The department may enlist the help of secondary and postsecondary teachers, governmental officials, members of organizations encouraging civic learning, members of community organizations and other interested citizens in the

development and execution of the scholarship program. The department shall annually notify each LEA of the program and its requirements for the receipt of a scholarship. Upon such notification, an LEA shall provide such notice to every high school and to all teachers of civic education in the system and shall request that the local news media publicize the program. The Tennessee student assistance corporation shall provide information about the scholarship program to students on its web site and during College Goal Sunday.

(b) The amount of the scholarship awarded each year shall be subject to such funds as are appropriated by the general appropriations act for such purposes.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.